

economic stability and security in the Asia-Pacific region. Additionally, many Filipinos have made the United States home. Filipino-Americans have contributed immensely to our nation's prosperity. In my home district of Guam, Filipino and Filipino-American community represent over one-third of the general population. They are also immense contributors to the betterment of our island and play a key role in the economic, social, and political fabric of our island and the nation as a whole.

In addition, the friendship of the Filipino people has forged a bond between our nations that has only grown stronger over time. Our nations are intimately linked to one another. I join the people of Guam in celebrating the 120th anniversary of the Republic of the Philippines' independence and look forward to our countries strengthening our relationship in the years to come.

**RECOGNIZING FRANK J. LEMKE
AND OTHERS WHO VOLUNTEERED FOR PROJECT 19**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Frank J. Lemke and many others from my district and around the country who volunteered to participate in Project 19, a secret program to aid the Allied Forces during World War II.

Mr. Lemke was born in Buffalo, attended St. Mary's School, and later attended Technical High School. After graduating, he was a machinist for the Airplane Division of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation in Cheektowaga producing P-40 fighter planes. At this time, the U.S. had not formally entered World War II so American troops could not be sent to the battlefields. Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, requested help from the U.S. because the British Royal Air Force's planes were being shot down much faster than they could be repaired in North Africa. There was a great need for a repair base in that region to continue the strong attack against the Nazis. At a meeting of the nation's top U.S. airplane manufacturing centers, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized Project 19 to respond to this great need overseas and the Douglas Aircraft Company was selected to manage this project.

Frank J. Lemke, and many other employees from the Curtiss-Wright Corporation in Cheektowaga volunteered to go on this 18-month mission to Africa. In total there were over 2,000 volunteers across the country. In the middle of the night Frank and many others crammed into a World War I troop ship and took a 50-day trip to an abandoned Italian air force base in Gura, located in the hills of North Africa. Their mission was to repair aircraft so that they would be battle ready once again and to assemble new aircraft.

After the Germans were defeated in Africa, Project 19 was officially closed. American civilians had the choice of enlisting or returning to the U.S. and Frank decided to return home. In the Winter of 1943 Frank was on a freighter returning to the U.S. when the ship that he was on was torpedoed off the coast of South Africa. He was later picked up near Sao

Paulo, Brazil, after 42 days in a 22-foot lifeboat with 25 crew members. He finally arrived back to Buffalo, NY where he became a hydraulics instructor at Curtiss-Wright's airport plant. Unfortunately, Frank Lemke passed away on July 16, 1955, but his memory lives on in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to recognize Frank J. Lemke and many others who participated in Project 19. It is important to recognize Frank and other civilian heroes who have contributed to the preservation of freedom in this great country. It is an honor to recognize these heroes who not only helped my district, but the Allied Forces win the war.

**RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL
INVENTORS MONTH**

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, if any single thing epitomizes American ingenuity, it is the iconic American inventor. It is our distinct pleasure, therefore, to give special recognition to the month of May as National Inventors Month.

President Lincoln considered how "certain inventions and discoveries [in history] occurred of peculiar value, on account of their great efficiency in facilitating all other inventions and discoveries." Mr. Lincoln specified "the art of writing and of printing; the discovery of America, and the introduction of patent laws." Today, we might refer to such inventions and discoveries as "disruptive technologies."

National Inventors Month, 2018, it is well worth considering President Lincoln's exaltation of invention and, by implication, of inventors. Moreover, we as a nation should pause to reflect why the Sixteenth President of the United States connected patent laws with invention and "disruptive" advancements. Notably, he even placed patenting of inventions on par with the discovery of America and the invention of the printing press. In the same lecture titled "Discoveries, Inventions, and Improvements," President Lincoln observed, "Before then any man [might] instantly use what another man had invented, so that the inventor had no special advantage from his invention. The patent system changed this, secured to the inventor for a limited time exclusive use of his inventions . . ."

Not only President Lincoln, but the Founders held this belief about securing patent rights to the intellectual fruits of one's labor. The Founders thought it important enough to empower and encourage invention by any American so inclined, in order to advance our nation's collective knowledge and economic strength, that they included this very special, exclusive property right within the Constitution itself. Thus, our Founders deliberately intended to stimulate invention by inventors from sea to shining sea—be they on farms, in factories, toiling in their basements, barns, garages, in corporate research and development facilities, in the laboratories of companies and of our world-class universities.

President Lincoln, who has been the only U.S. president with a patent, summarized this famous, successful formula. He credited our patent system for its securing inventors' exclusive rights to use their inventions as they see

fit. He phrased this famously, completing the thought in the same speech. Mr. Lincoln said U.S. patents "added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius in the discovery and production of new and useful things."

Therefore, we proudly recognize National Inventors Month. I encourage my fellow Americans to take this opportunity to reflect on the great benefits we daily enjoy from the inventions, great and small, of American inventors.

**RECOGNIZING TERESA CARLSON,
KERI SHULL, GINA STRACUZZI**

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three remarkable women—Teresa Carlson, Keri Shull, and Gina Stracuzzi—who are being honored by the Institute for Excellence in Sales on June 15, 2018. These awards promote and advance corporate and organizational sales excellence by recognizing individuals that have demonstrated outstanding leadership and strategic vision in Sales.

Teresa Carlson is receiving the Lifetime Achievement in Sales Award. Ms. Carlson is one of the top female leaders in technology today. Teresa Carlson leads the Amazon Web Services (AWS) Worldwide Public Sector business—involving state, local, central and regional governments; educational institutions and Ed Techs; and non-profits and nongovernmental organizations (NGO)—and acts as an advisor to Amazon Public Policy on global policy issues. Since starting AWS's public sector business in 2010, Ms. Carlson has driven the business's growth that, today, accounts for 2,000 government, 4,500 education, and 17,500 nonprofit customers, and a vast partner ecosystem across all geographies.

Keri Shull is receiving the Women in Sales Executive Leadership Award. Ranked as the #1 Real Estate Team in Virginia, Ms. Shull and her team sold 321 homes in 2017. Ms. Shull has developed an extensive team of marketing specialists who implement aggressive strategies using innovative technology to ensure maximum exposure for their clients' homes.

Gina Stracuzzi is the Institute for Excellence in Sales Member of the Year. Ms. Stracuzzi has led the IES Women in Sales program since 2016. She is a business development expert who has helped world-renown organizations substantially grow.

**RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF JOHN
C. MYERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
IN PROMOTING STEM EDUCATION**

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I believe nothing is more important to America's future than ensuring a high-quality education for our nation's children. In the 21st century, this includes encouraging student participation in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and